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ABSTRACT

Data on dropout patterns in New York City Public Schools are provided and analyzed in order to identify issues to be addressed and contribute to the establishment of standards and criteria for program development. Part I introduces the key questions to be asked. In Part II, the term dropout is defined according to State Education guidelines; the criteria for gauging high school and system-wide dropout rates are articulated; the structure of the school system is outlined; and procedures for dropout accounting are described. Part III lays out the findings in terms of: (1) the annual dropout percentage and projected four-year dropout rates; (2) a comparison of 1983-1984 and 1982-1983 dropout rates; (3) reasons for discharge; (4) a further examination of day high school dropouts; (5) all discharges from New York City schools; and (6) supplementary analyses on dropout rates among older students, the success of a retrieval plan for dropouts, figures for dropouts who re-enroll, and data on adult and continuing education students. Part IV draws together the conclusions. Three appendices present admission and discharge codes; figures for dropouts and graduates from academic, vocational, and alternative high schools; and a history of dropout accounting in New York City. (RDN)

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Analytic Report
O.E.A. Data Analysis Section
Raymond Domanico, Administrator
May, 1985

THE 1983-84 DROPOUT REPORT

Prepared by the

Analytic Studies Unit

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

Dropout prevention is one of the most important priorities of the New York City Public Schools, as many students leave school without completing their educations. This is the fourth report in recent years, and the third since the institution of the individual computerized student information system, which provides basic statistics to describe the incidence of dropping out.

The data and analyses presented in this report are used by the central administration to plan programs and make educational decisions to help ensure that students successfully complete their educations. The data provide information identifying issues to be addressed, and contribute to the establishment of standards and criteria for the development and evaluation of programs.

Definition

This report follows State Education Department guidelines in designating which students will be counted as first-time dropouts. Accordingly, dropouts are those students who left school during the 1983-84 school year, who did not enroll in another educational setting, and who had not been counted as dropouts in previous years.

Students who left school and enrolled in programs leading to the high school equivalency diploma are not considered dropouts, unless they drop out from the high school equivalency program.

This definition is the same as that used in the 1982-83 report.

1983-84 Dropout Rates

Analyses of admission and discharge data for 1983-84 showed that 11.4 percent of the more than 260,000 high school students were first-time dropouts. They dropped out from day high schools or from other high school programs to which they

had transferred during that school year. This annual dropout percentage yields a projected four-year rate of 38.4 percent.

System-wide, 12.7 percent of over 306 thousand students were first-time dropouts. The system-wide rate includes the high school rate plus students who dropped out from middle schools, retrieval programs, and special education schools. This annual dropout percentage projects to a four-year rate of 41.9 percent.

The dropout rates in 1983-84 for both the high schools and the entire school system remained virtually the same as those in 1982-83.

Reasons for Dropping Out

For most day high school students discharged as dropouts, the records showed only that they were over 17 and had their parents' consent to leave school; this was the case for 70 percent of all first-time day high school dropouts. Nearly nine percent left school for employment, business or other vocational training, or military service. About 14 percent were discharged to special dropout retrieval programs or to evening high schools but their admission to the new setting could not be confirmed. The remaining seven percent were not found after a search by the Bureau of Attendance.

Comparison of Dropouts and All Day High School Students

In comparison to the general day high school population, there were more males than females among dropouts. Dropouts also tended to be older students; nearly half were over 18. On the other hand, the grade distribution of dropouts was similar to that of the general day high school population.

New Analyses: Supplementary Findings

In addition to the presentation of the basic dropout statistics, the 1983-84 report contains results of supplementary analyses. With the increased sophistication of the student information system it has become possible to examine the issues in more detail and gain a fuller perspective.

Older Students. Although many dropouts are older students, the New York City Public Schools are able to retain many older students until they complete their educations. In 1984 over one-third of the approximately 40,000 graduates were between 18 and a half and 22 years old. High school equivalency diploma recipients, as a group, were even older; 67 percent were over 18 and a half years old.

Retrieval Program Students. Over 24 thousand students a year attend programs especially designed for a dropout population.

Dropouts Who Re-enroll. Follow-up analyses of 1982-83, as well as 1983-84, dropouts showed that about 3,000 in each group re-enrolled and, in some cases, completed their educations during the next school year.

Adult and Continuing Education Students. Among 1983-84 dropouts, an additional 900 students were found to have registered during the same or the following year for adult basic education or high school equivalency courses given by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education.

Dropout Accounting

Dropout statistics are based on regular reports of student admissions and discharges submitted by the schools. Students discharged under the following circumstances are considered dropouts: obtained employment certificate; entered business or trade school; not found after a search by the Bureau of Attendance; enrolled in vocational training program; entered the military; and over 17. Students who leave school to attend other educational programs but fail to actually do so are also considered dropouts.

Individual students' historical records provide information to distinguish those who have dropped out previously from students dropping out for the first time. Only first-time dropouts are counted.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Beginning with the 1977-78 school year, the New York City Public Schools have produced estimates of the proportion of students entering the ninth grade who subsequently leave school before completing their high school educations. In the ensuing years there have been refinements in dropout accounting procedures as well as improvements in the accuracy and completeness of available information. The present report, prepared by the Office of Educational Assessment, provides statistics on students discharged as dropouts during the 1983-84 school year.

The statistics presented in this report are based on individual student records which include information on current status as well as previous admissions and discharges. Information on each student's history in the school system is used to distinguish first-time dropouts from students who have left the school system as dropouts before. All schools and programs serving students age 14 and over are included.

Annual dropout percentages are presented for individual high schools, for all high schools, and system-wide. In addition the projected four-year dropout rate is presented for the high schools and for all schools in the system.

The report addresses the following questions:

- How many and what proportion of New York City's students dropped out of school during the 1983-84 school year?
- Of these, how many were first-time dropouts?
- What schools did they attend? What grades were they in? How old were they when they dropped out?
- Based on the number of dropouts during 1983-84, what is the estimated proportion of ninth-graders who successfully complete their high school educations? What is the proportion who drop out?
- What was the status in June, 1984 of students discharged as dropouts during 1982-83? What was the status in January, 1985 of students discharged as dropouts during 1983-84?
- How many 1983-84 dropouts subsequently enrolled in adult education courses administered by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education?
- How do the dropout statistics for 1983-84 compare with those for 1982-83?

Chapter II presents the procedures followed in producing the dropout statistics; Chapter III presents findings; and Chapter IV presents conclusions. Background materials and documents are found in the Appendices.

II. METHODOLOGY

DEFINITION OF DROPOUT

This report follows recent State Education Department guidelines in designating which students will be counted as first-time dropouts. Accordingly, dropouts are those students who left school during the 1983-84 school year who did not within the same period re-enroll in another educational setting and who had not been counted as dropouts in previous years.

Students who left school and enrolled in programs which prepare them for the Test of General Educational Development (G.E.D.) leading to the high school equivalency diploma are not considered dropouts, unless they drop out from the G.E.D. program.

In New York City, students can be legally discharged from the school system once they have attained the age of 17, and have parental consent to leave school. Students with employment certificates may leave at age 16. In addition, students who are absent for long periods of time, and cannot be located by the Bureau of Attendance, can also be discharged as "not found". This report considers "not found" students age 14 or over to be dropouts.

HIGH SCHOOL AND SYSTEM-WIDE DROPOUT RATES

High School Dropout Rate

The following groups of students are included in the high school dropout rate:

- dropouts from academic, vocational, and alternative high schools; and
- dropouts from special dropout retrieval programs who left an academic, vocational, or alternative high school during the same school year.

System-wide Dropout Rate

In addition to the students included in the high school dropout rate, the system-wide dropout rate includes:

- dropouts from intermediate and junior high schools;
- high school "no shows" who fail to appear at the high school to which they are assigned and who are determined to be dropouts by the Bureau of Attendance;
- dropouts from special education schools; and
- dropouts from retrieval programs who did not leave a day high school during the same school year.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM

Day High Schools

Most students age 14 and over in New York City attend academic or vocational day high schools; nearly 84 percent of

the more than 300 thousand students between the ages of 14 and 21 attend one of these 100 schools. In addition there are 12 alternative high schools which serve about 5,000 students who have experienced difficulties in other school settings. Academic, vocational, and alternative schools all offer high school diplomas.

Evening High Schools

Approximately 20,000 students each semester attend one or more evening high school classes. About half of these are students simultaneously attending day high schools; the others have been formally discharged. Students who have been discharged with three or fewer credits remaining are still eligible to receive a day high school diploma as a "former student" when they complete their diploma requirements. Students who are four or more credits short of graduation when they are discharged from day high school are awarded an evening high school diploma when they complete their graduation requirements.

Retrieval Programs

According to the annual audited register, approximately 12,000 students attend High School Division programs for students who have left regular day schooling. These retrieval programs include Auxiliary Services for High Schools (ASHS), Outreach Centers, as well as Literacy Centers

for students with very low reading levels. For purposes of this report, the Schools for Pregnant Teens and the Substance Abuse Programs are also considered retrieval settings in that they serve students who have left other educational programs leading to a high school diploma.

The retrieval programs, the day high schools, and the evening high schools are all administered by the Division of High Schools. With the exception of those for evening high school students, all student records are computerized.

Community School District And Project Reentry Students

A number of students age 14 and over remain outside the jurisdiction of the Division of High Schools. These include: approximately 25 thousand ninth-graders in junior high schools; overage students who have not yet moved on to high school because they have not completed the required full year on register in the final grade of intermediate or junior high school; and students who fail to appear at the high school to which they are assigned. This last group, the "no shows", are also known as Project Reentry students. They are referred to the Bureau of Attendance and, if they do not eventually report to high school, they can be discharged as dropouts. Project Reentry students also include students who have been identified as at-risk of dropping out on the basis of low attendance during the last year before high school.

Special Education Schools

Most special education students age 14 and over attend regular day high schools. In addition, the Division of Special Education operates full-time programs for students whose handicaps preclude their participation in regular day high schools. These programs include the Occupational Training Centers for mentally handicapped students, day and residential treatment programs for emotionally handicapped students, and programs for students with physical or sensory impairments.

DROPOUT ACCOUNTING

Discharge Codes

The basic data from which the dropout statistics are derived are the regular reports of student admissions and discharges submitted by the pupil accounting secretaries in each school. This information is then used to update each student's cumulative computerized record; information which has been replaced is stored as "history."

Students may be discharged from New York City schools in one of over twenty categories; six are considered dropout discharges as such. These include: leaving school after obtaining an employment certificate; entering military service; attending a business or trade school; joining the Job Corps or other vocational training; not found after a

search by the Bureau of Attendance; and all others over 17 who leave school with parental consent.

Other students counted as dropouts are those discharged to a retrieval program for whom there is no confirmed admission, and students who leave school to attend evening high schools but fail to graduate by the end of the year.

Non-dropout discharge codes include any confirmed transfer to another educational setting, including home instruction; moving from New York City; and several types of completion of one's high school career, such as graduation, early admission to college, receiving a high school equivalency diploma, and, new in 1983-84, completion of the goals outlined on the special education I.E.P. (For a complete presentation of discharge and admission categories and their definitions, see Appendix A.)

Dropout Counts

In order to determine the basic dropout count for the 1983-84 school year, all records for students between 14 and 21 years of age were examined. From these records a list was generated of all students discharged as dropouts between September 1, 1983 and June 30, 1984. In December 1984, this listing was sent to the schools for verification of each student's status as a 1983-84 dropout. In addition, the records of all students discharged to retrieval programs

were inspected to confirm that all admissions to new settings had been recorded; any students whose admissions could not be confirmed were considered dropouts. Following the completion of these dropout verification procedures and updating of the students' records, dropout counts were computed.

Differences in Dropout Accounting between 1982-83 and 1983-84

There are several changes in 1983-84 in procedures for dropout accounting. First, all dropouts from retrieval programs with no other history in the New York City school system are counted as first-time dropouts. For 1982-83 determination of the number of first-time dropouts was based on an estimate made by a program administrator.

Another change is the decision to consider as dropouts all students who left school to attend evening high school but did not graduate by August, 1984. Because records of evening high school admissions are not computerized, it is not possible to verify admissions on a name-by-name basis. For 1982-83, 63 percent of the students discharged to evening high schools that year were counted as dropouts. This percentage was based on a follow-up study on a sample.

These two changes tend to raise the dropout rate by counting students in 1983-84 as first-time dropouts who would not have been counted under 1982-83 procedures. Two other changes in accounting may work the other way. Students

attending non-Board of Education programs leading to the G.E.D. are not counted as dropouts; nor are special education students who leave school after completing the goals specified on their I.E.P.s. Both groups were counted in 1982-83.

Estimation of the Dropout Rate

Past reports have defined the dropout rate as the proportion of students who do and do not complete high school. The most direct way to calculate this rate would be to follow each year's entering ninth-graders as they proceed through school. However, since reliable, computerized data were not available until 1981-82, the first opportunity for such a cohort study will not occur until after the 1984-85 school year. Accordingly, as in previous years, this report will use a procedure known as the survival rate method to compute an estimate of the four-year dropout rate.

The survival rate method projects the annual dropout percentage over four years. One rationale for this method is as follows: if the high school population as a whole loses a certain proportion of its students each year, each grade, on average, is also losing students at roughly the same rate. For example, if 10 percent of the students drop out in a single year, one may assume that roughly 10 percent of the

students in each grade drop out each year; conversely, each year 90 percent remain. Applying this proportion over four years yields an estimated percentage of ninth-graders who complete high school as well as the corresponding percentage of students who drop out.

III. FINDINGS

ANNUAL DROPOUT PERCENTAGE AND PROJECTED FOUR-YEAR DROPOUT RATES

High School Dropout Percentage and Dropout Rate

The official 1983-84 register for academic, vocational, and alternative high schools, was 261,453. A total of 29,775 students were first-time dropouts from these schools; these included 1,568 students who left day high schools, enrolled in retrieval programs, and then dropped out a second time during the 1983-84 school year. These data, which are presented in Table 1, yield an annual dropout percentage of 11.39 percent and an estimated four-year dropout rate of 38.4 percent. (Data for individual schools showing total register, dropouts, annual dropout percentage, and graduates are presented in Appendix B.)

System-wide Dropout Percentage and Dropout Rate

The official 1983-84 register for all schools serving students age 14 and over was 306,075; this included all high school students, ninth-graders in junior high schools, and special school students age 14 and older. A total of 38,804 students, or 12.68 percent, dropped out of these schools for the first-time in 1983-84; 28,207 from day high schools, 6,066 from retrieval programs, 1,829 from special schools, and 1,436 from junior high schools. There were also

Table 1

Computation of Dropout Rate for New York City High Schools

Enumeration of First-time Dropouts	
From Day High Schools	28,207
From Retrieval Programs (Left Day High School 1983-84)	1,568
Total	29,775
Population Base for Rate Calculation	
Official Register for Academic High Schools	220,742
Official Register for Vocational High Schools	35,917
Official Register for Alternative High Schools	4,794
Total	261,453

Estimation of Dropout Rate

Annual Dropout Percentage = $\frac{29,775}{261,453}$ = 11.39 percent

Annual Survival Rate = 100.00 - 11.39 = 88.61 percent

Four-year Survival Rate = (.8861 x .8861 x .8861 x .8861) = .6165

Four-year Dropout Rate = 1.0000 - .6165 = .3825 = 38.4 percent

1,266 students who failed to appear for high school and did not enroll elsewhere. Projecting the annual rate over four years yields an estimated dropout rate of 41.9 percent. (These data are presented in Table 2.)

COMPARISON OF 1983-84 AND 1982-83 DROPOUT RATES

The overall dropout rate for New York City high schools, as well as the system-wide rate, remained virtually the same between 1982-83 and 1983-84. For both years, the annual dropout percentage for high schools was 11.39 percent, yielding an estimated four-year dropout rate of 38.4 percent. The system-wide annual percentages were 12.60 percent in 1982-83 and 12.68 percent in 1983-84, yielding estimated four-year rates of 41.7 percent and 41.9 percent.

REASONS FOR DISCHARGE

Dropouts from Intermediate and Junior High Schools

Most of the 1,436 first-time dropouts from intermediate and junior high schools were discharged as not found after a search by the Bureau of Attendance; there were 1,089 such students. In addition, 210 were over 17; 122 obtained employment certificates, enrolled in job training programs, or entered military service; and 15 were discharged to retrieval programs without confirmed admission. (See Table 3.)

Table 2

Computation of System-wide Dropout Rate
For New York City Schools

Enumeration of First-time Dropouts	
From Intermediate and Junior High Schools	1,436
Project Reentry Students	1,266
From Day High Schools	28,207
From Retrieval Programs	6,066
From Special Schools	1,829
Total	38,804
Population Base for Rate Calculation	
High School Enrollment, including Retrieval Programs	273,083
Ninth-Grade Students in Junior High Schools	25,140
Special Schools Students, Age 14 and Over	7,852 *
Total	306,075

Estimation of Dropout Rate

Annual Dropout Percentage = $\frac{38,804}{306,075}$ = 12.68 percent

Annual Survival Rate = 100.00 - 12.68 = 87.32 percent

Four-year
Survival Rate = (.8732 x .8732 x .8732 x .8732) = .5814

Four-year
Dropout Rate = 100.00 - .5814 = .4186 = 41.9 percent

* Estimated

Table 3

First-time and Total Dropouts
From New York City Schools in 1983-84,
By Program and Type of Discharge

	Total Dropouts	First-time Dropouts
Dropouts From Intermediate and Junior High Schools		
Not Found	1,141	1,089
Employment, Job Training, Military Service	125	122
Other over 17	215	210
Discharged to Retrieval Program without Confirmed Admission	15	15
Sub-Total	1,496	1,436
Project Re-entry Students		
Not Found	775	775
Other Over 17	405	405
Under Investigation	86	86
Sub-Total	1,266	1,266
Dropouts From Day High Schools		
Employment Certificate	1,232	1,188
Job Corps or Vocational Training Center	418	407
Business or Trade School	665	635
Military Service	202	194
Discharged to Auxiliary Services without Confirmed Admission	1,936	1,871
Discharged to Outreach Center without Confirmed Admission	519	498
Left School to Attend Evening High School but Did Not Graduate	1,611	1,545
Other Over 17	20,986	19,868
Not Found	2,100	2,001
Sub-Total	29,669	28,207

Table 3 (continued)

First-time and Total Dropouts
From New York City Schools in 1983-84,
By Program and Type of Discharge

	Total Dropouts	First-time Dropouts
Dropouts from Retrieval Programs		
Left Day High School 1983-84	1,568	1,568
Day High School Dropout Prior to 1983-84	2,189	--
Former NYC Dropout from Other than Day High School	1,091	--
First-time Dropout with Prior NYC School History	1,454	1,454
First-time Dropout without Prior NYC School History	3,044	3,044
Sub-Total	9,346	6,066
Dropouts From Special Schools		
Employment, Job Training, Military Service	184	174
Discharged to Retrieval Program without Confirmed Admission	45	39
Left School To Attend Evening High School but Did Not Graduate	6	5
Other Over 17	1,567	1,373
Not Found	254	238
Sub-Total	2,056	1,829
Total	43,833	38,804

Project Reentry Students

The Bureau of Attendance investigated all students who failed to appear at their assigned high schools, who had not already been discharged by their intermediate or junior high schools. Many were eventually located within the New York City school system. However, 716 were not found, 345 were over 17, and 86 remained under investigation by the Bureau of Attendance. In addition, other school personnel discharged 59 students as not found, and 60 as over 17, for a total of 1,266. (See Table 3.)

Dropouts from Day High Schools

A total of 19,868 of the 28,207 first-time dropouts from day high schools were discharged as over 17. (See Table 3.) Other reported reasons for discharge were as follows: 2,424 students left school for employment, job training, or military service; 2,369 were discharged to retrieval programs without confirmed admission; 2,001 were not found; and 1,545 left school to attend evening high school but did not graduate. (For the number of dropouts in each category from individual schools, see Appendix D.)

Dropouts from Special Schools

Of the 1,829 dropouts from special schools, 1,373 were over 17; 238 were not found, 174 left school for employment,

job training, or military service, 39 were discharged to retrieval programs without confirmed admission, and five left to attend evening high school but did not graduate.

Dropouts from Retrieval Programs

Following the format established in the 1982-83 report, statistics on dropouts from retrieval programs are presented according to their prior school history. A total of 9,346 students dropped out of retrieval programs during 1983-84. Of these, 3,280 had previously been counted as dropouts and the remaining 6,066 were counted as first-time dropouts in absence of definite information to the contrary. The largest group of first-time dropouts consisted of 3,044 students who never attended a public school in New York City until they enrolled in a retrieval program. The next group contained the 1,568 students who are counted in the high school dropout rate because they left school twice in 1983-84, once from a day high school and a second time from a retrieval program. The last group was made up of 1,454 students who had been enrolled in some other New York City program but whose historical records showed no previous dropout discharge.

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF DAY HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

Sex, Grade, and Age Distributions of First-time Day High School Dropouts

Of the 28,207 first-time dropouts from day high schools, 15,793 or 56 percent were male and 12,348 or 43.8 percent were female. (For 66, sex was not indicated.) Student records indicated that males and females are almost equally represented among the total day high school population; accordingly, there was an overrepresentation of males among dropouts. (See Table 4.)

An examination of the grade distribution of first-time day high school dropouts showed that nearly 30 percent came from grade 10; 24 percent came from grade 9, 19 percent from grade 11, and 14 percent from grade 12. Seven percent came from ungraded special education classes and for seven percent grade was not reported. Comparison of these percentages with the grade distribution of the overall population indicated that the grades had proportionately equal numbers of dropouts. (See Table 5.)

Finally, an analysis of the birth dates of first-time dropouts from day high schools, which is presented in Table 6, showed that over 80 percent were born in 1966 or earlier; that is, they were at least 17, or nearly 17 years old, at the beginning of the 1983-84 school year. At the same time,

Table 4

Sex Distribution of Day High School Dropouts and Total Day High School Population

Sex	Number of Dropouts	Percent of All Dropouts	Percent of Total Population *
Male	15,793	56.0	49.5
Female	12,348	43.8	50.4
Not Indicated	66	0.2	0.1
Total	28,207	100.0	100.0

* Based on Biofile records of students active as of June 30, 1984.

- There were somewhat more males than females among the first-time dropouts from day high-schools in 1983-84. However, males and females are almost equally represented among the total day high school population.

Table 5

Grade Distribution Of Day High School Dropouts and Total Day High School Population

Grade	Number of Dropouts	Percent of All Dropouts	Percent of Total Population *
9	6,710	23.8	25.1
10	7,975	28.3	30.1
11	5,371	19.0	22.7
12	3,985	14.1	16.6
Special Education	1,997	7.1	5.5
Grade not Indicated	2,169	7.7	---
Total	28,207	100.0	100.0

* Based on annual audited register for academic and vocational high schools.

- Day high school dropouts were distributed somewhat unequally across the four grades, with grade 10 contributing the most, followed by grades 9, 11, and 12. However, this reflects the composition of the total day high school population.

Table 6

Age Distribution of Day High School Dropouts and Total Day High School Population

Year of Birth	Number of First-time Dropouts	Percent of All Dropouts	Percent of Total Population *
1969 or Later	95	0.3	12.0
1968	555	2.0	23.3
1967	4,764	16.9	27.8
1966	10,486	37.2	23.4
1965	6,970	24.7	8.7
1964	3,546	12.6	3.1
1963 or Earlier	1,736	6.2	1.5
Not Indicated	55	0.2	0.2
Total	28,207	100.1 **	100.0

* Based on records of students active as of June 30, 1984

** Exceeds 100 percent because of rounding.

- Over 37 percent of the students discharged as dropouts during 1983-84 were born in 1966; i.e were 17, or nearly 17 years old, at the beginning of the school year. However, only about 23 percent of the total day high school population were born in 1966.

- On the other hand, although only about 13 percent of the total day high school population were born in 1965 or earlier, that is, were 18 or older, this group made up over 43 percent of the first-time dropouts from day high schools.

students born in 1966 or earlier made up only about 37 percent of the total day high school population. On the other hand, students who were 16 or younger accounted for about 20 percent of the first-time dropouts while making up about 63 percent of the total day high school population. Such a distribution reflects the fact that education is compulsory until students reach 17, or 16 for students with employment certificates; the only younger students included as dropouts were those over 14 who were discharged as not found.

Furthermore, the age when a student was discharged may not reflect when he or she actually stopped attending school. The fact that only 23 percent of the total day high school population were born in 1966, but these accounted for over 37 percent of the first-time dropouts suggests that there were students who were discharged soon after they reached 17 who may actually have left school sometime earlier.

On the other hand, many students stayed in school well beyond 17 before dropping out. Although only about 13 percent of the total day high school population was born in 1965 or earlier, i.e. were about 18 or older at the beginning of the 1983-84 school year, this group accounted for over 43 percent of the dropouts.

ALL DISCHARGES FROM NEW YORK CITY SCHOOLS

In order to provide additional context for the dropout figures, the total numbers of all students age 14 and over who left the school system in 1983-84 are presented in Table 7. In all, 107,726 out of more than 306 thousand students were discharged in 1983-84. Nearly half (44.4 percent) of these completed their high school educations, almost all by receiving diplomas. About 41 percent of all discharges were students who dropped out, and the remaining students (14.9 percent) enrolled in non-Board of Education settings, left New York City, or were deceased.

SUPPLEMENTARY ANALYSES

Analyses of admissions and discharge information for compilation of the dropout statistics also provided data which indicate the variety of routes which students take to complete their educations, and the New York City school system's attempts to meet the needs of students with discontinuous school careers. For example, an examination of the ages of approximately 39,000 students whose 1984 graduation information had been posted to the student information system showed that although nearly 65 percent were 18 and a half or younger, over 35 percent were between 18 and a half and 22 years old.

Among 1983-84 G.E.D. recipients there was an even greater proportion of older students. Of the 4,221 students whose

Table 7

All Students Age 14 and Over Who Left School in 1983-84

Discharge Category	Number of Students	Percent of All Discharges
Completed H.S. Education		
Graduated *	43,340	40.2
Received Equivalency Diploma **	4,221	3.9
Early College Admission	150	0.1
Completed H.S. Special Education Program	193	0.2
Sub-Total	47,904	44.4
Enrolled in Non-Board of Education Setting		
Parochial School	1,440	1.3
Private School	1,129	1.1
Institutionalized	993	0.9
G.E.D. Preparation	714	0.7
Home Instruction	98	0.1
Sub-Total	4,374	4.1
Other		
Moved from New York City	11,430	10.6
Deceased	191	0.2
Sub-Total	11,621	10.8
Dropped Out		
First-time Dropout	38,804	36.0
Previous Dropout	5,023	4.7
Sub-Total	43,827	40.7
Total Discharges	107,726	100.0

* From Division of High Schools 1984 "Annual Report on Graduates."

**This figure includes only those students whose G.E.D. information was reported to the New York City schools and, thus, understates the actual number of students receiving equivalency diplomas.

equivalency diploma information had been recorded on the student information system, only 33 percent were 18 and a half or younger; the remaining 67 percent were over 18 and a half years old.

Another indication of the school system's attempts to serve students with unconventional school careers was the number of students served by the retrieval programs. During 1983-84 there were 10,080 students admitted to retrieval programs who had at some time attended day high schools. Although 3,568 of these dropped out, 6,512 did not. (Included among the 3,568 are students who attended day high school in 1983-84 who are reported in Table 3.) In all, the retrieval programs served over 24 thousand students in 1983-84, as indicated by total admissions recorded on the monthly Period Attendance Reports; about half of these were on register as of October 31, 1983, the date of the annual audited register.

Follow-up of 1982-83 and 1983-84 Dropouts

An examination of the status of 1982-83 dropouts in June, 1984 and that of 1983-84 dropouts in January, 1985 provided further evidence of student movement back into the school system. Of the students whose June, 1984 records showed dropout discharges during 1982-83, 3,361 had new information indicating that they were no longer dropouts. Most of these, 3,061, were currently active in the school system, 242 had completed their educations, and 58 had received non-dropout discharges.

Of the 3,061 dropouts from 1982-83 who were active in the school system as of June, 1984, 2,091 had previously been discharged as dropouts from day high schools; about half of these returned to day high schools and the others enrolled in retrieval programs or special schools. There were 578 retrieval program dropouts who were active as of June, 1984; nearly all returned to these settings. The remaining students were former dropouts from other programs.

Examination of January, 1985 records of all 1983-84 dropouts showed a similar pattern. There were 3,039 students with 1983-84 dropout discharges who were no longer dropouts; 3,016 had re-enrolled, in New York City schools, 18 had completed their educations, and five had enrolled in other settings. Among the 3,016 students who were currently active, 2,021 had left day high schools as dropouts in 1983-84; over half returned to day high schools and the rest enrolled in retrieval programs or, in a few cases, special schools. Nearly all of the 756 students who had been discharged as dropouts from retrieval programs returned to these settings.

New York City Dropouts and Adult Education Programs

In order to determine the extent to which students who drop out of the public schools subsequently enroll in adult

basic education and high school equivalency courses administered by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, the adult education records for 1983-84 and 1984-85 were matched with the file of 1983-84 dropouts. Analyses showed that about 2.5 percent of all 1983-84 dropouts appeared on the adult education registers; 665 dropouts enrolled in courses in 1983-84 and an additional 282 enrolled in 1984-85.

About one-third (29.5 percent) of the 1983-84 dropouts enrolled in adult education courses were employed and the others were seeking work (64.1 percent) or were currently not available for work (6.4 percent). Most had been discharged as over 17 (78.1 percent) or discharged to a new setting without confirmed admission (14.3 percent). Students dis-discharged as dropouts from Auxiliary Services accounted for over one-third (35.2 percent) of all students moving to the adult education programs; others were discharged from academic, vocational, and alternative schools, and other retrieval programs.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

Analyses of the dropout statistics for the 1983-84 school year showed that the number of New York City students who leave before finishing high school and do not enroll in other educational settings remains a serious problem for the school system. A total of 11.4 percent of the city's more than 260 thousand high school students were first-time dropouts in 1983-84, and 12.7 percent of the 306 thousand students age 14 and over system-wide were first-time dropouts. Extrapolated over four years these yield four-year dropout rates of 38.4 percent for high school students and 41.9 percent system-wide. Comparable figures for 1982-83 were as follows: annual and four-year rates for high school students, 11.4 and 38.4 percent; and system-wide, 12.6 and 41.7 percent.

Analyses of the 1983-84 admission and discharge data provided information in addition to the basic dropout statistics. For example, in comparison to the general day high school population, day high school dropouts were somewhat more likely to be male than female, and to come from among the older students, i.e. age 18 and over. However, the grade distribution of day high school dropouts was similar to that of the general population. Dropouts made up about 41 percent

of all students age 14 and over who left school in 1983-84; about 44 percent completed their educations and the others (15 percent) were non-dropout discharges.

There were indications that many of the students served by the New York City schools have discontinuous or unconventional school careers. Over 35 percent of the 1984 graduates were between 18 and a half and 22 years of age; among G.E.D. recipients, 67 percent were over 18 and half years old. Retrieval programs, which are especially designed for students who have left school, served over 24 thousand students in 1983-84. Finally, follow-up analyses of students discharged as dropouts in 1982-83 or 1983-84 showed that, in each group, the records of approximately eight percent showed that they had returned to school, in New York City or elsewhere, or completed their educations. An additional 2.5 percent of the 1983-84 dropouts were found on the registers of adult basic education or high school equivalency classes, administered by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education.

As informative as the data are in this report, they present only a partial view of the dropout problem. The statistics alone provide little information about important programmatic efforts aimed at helping students at risk . Therefore, upcoming evaluation reports will describe and

assess the effectiveness of various strategies designed to increase the number of students who successfully complete their schooling.

APPENDIX A.

Admission and Discharge Codes

ADMISSION CODE TABLE

Admission from another N.Y.C. public school.....50
Admission from N.Y.C. parochial school (not readmission)...51
Admission from Board of Education home instruction.....52
Readmission into the N.Y.C. public school system following formal discharge out of N.Y.C. public school system within the same school year.
- from parochial school.....53
- from other (private school, other cities, period of non-enrollment, etc.).....54

Readmission into the N.Y.C. public school system following formal discharge out of the N.Y.C. public school system in a previous school year.
- from parochial school.....55
- from other (private school, other cities, period of non-enrollment, etc.).....56

Admission-first time entrant into the N.Y.C. public school system, other than from parochial school (includes Kindergarten and Grade 1 new entrants and pupils from private schools, other cities, etc.....58

DISCHARGE CODES

REVISED • September 1983

New York City Board of Education

Office of Student Information Services

DISCHARGES

The Pupil Accounting Secretary maintains the school's official record of discharges by entering student-specific information in the school's OSIS Discharge Book. This procedure applies in all circumstances, including the discharging of students in Special Education programs, or the maintenance of records in UAPC high schools.

To discharge students properly, the secretary must be aware of, and adhere to, the discharge regulations, codes, and definitions currently in effect. These have their basis in State Education Law, New York City Board of Education By-Laws, Chancellor's Regulations, High School Division Memoranda and Policy Statements, Office of Pupil Personnel Services' Attendance procedures, and Office of Student Information Services recordkeeping requirements.

Discharge Codes

The two-digit Discharge Code which the secretary enters in the Discharge Book is a simple yet precise way to record the circumstances under which a student is discharged. This information enables the Office of Student Information Services to produce management reports offering valuable insights into student mobility, post-discharge vocational/educational alternatives, school "holding power", and similar subjects.

The validity of these reports depends upon the secretary's selection of the appropriate discharge code for each student who is removed from the school's register. PLEASE STUDY THE CODES AND THE DESCRIPTIVE TEXT CAREFULLY.

Discharge Codes
as of September 1983:

DISCHARGE CODE TABLE

Admitted to other N.Y.C. Public School	00
Graduated	01
Obtained Employment Certificate	02
Under 6 Years Old	04
Admitted to Parochial School	06
Admitted to Business or Trade School	07
Admitted to Private School	08
Private Instruction at Home (Non Bd. of Ed.)	09
In Institution (Non Bd. of Ed.)	10
Removal from New York City	11
Not Found	12
Deceased	15
Home Instruction (Bd. of Ed.)	17
Enrolled in a college Early Admission Program prior to graduation from high school	20

MOVE The following codes have been deleted and may no longer be used: 03 (Over 17); 05 (Married); 25 (Beauty School) which is now included under Code 07.

"OVER 17" DISCHARGE CODE TABLE

To be used in conjunction with official regulations for the discharge of students who are 17 years of age or older.

Received New York State High School Equivalency Diploma after an "in school" program	30
Enrolled in Auxiliary Services for the High Schools	31
Enrolled in an Outreach Center	32
Enrolled in a N.Y.C. Public Evening High School to continue a high school education and work toward an Evening High School Diploma	33
Enrolled in Job Corps or other similar vocational training program	34
Entered Military Service	35
NEW Enrolled in a full-time High School Equivalency program outside the New York City public school system	36
Special Education "High School Completer"	37
Other - Over 17, discharged with parental consent, not included in any categories above	39

Changes in descriptive text: The most extensive changes, from the 1982 descriptions, appear for the following codes: 02; 06; 07; 08.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Code	Description

00 Admitted to other New York City Public School
(including N.Y.C. Board of Education Hospital Schools).
Do not use Code 00 for discharges to N.Y.C. Board of Education Home Instruction, Auxiliary Services for the High Schools, or Outreach Centers, for which there are distinct discharge codes.

Students in Regular Grades (PK-12) may be discharged with Code 00 upon statement by the parent/guardian that the student is moving outside the current school's attendance area. FORM OSIS 101 (copy 2) serves as a transmittal form and introduction for the student at the new school.

If within ten (10) days after the discharge no request for the student's permanent record is received, the discharging secretary must complete Referral FORM 407, Attendance Teacher's Absentee Report, and submit it to the school's Attendance Supervisor for follow-up.

Students in Special Education Programs may only be discharged to another New York City Public School upon information from the admitting school that the student has begun attending there. This information is usually transmitted at the time of the request for the student's records.

The Placement/Transfer/Discharge Form issued by the Division of Special Education on the Elem., I.S., J.H.S., and Special School levels is only a notice of pending action. It does not authorize the school secretary to discharge the student to another New York City Public School.

01 Graduated
Student has received High School Diploma or CRMD Certificate. A student may not be discharged for failing to graduate. In such cases, students do not require readmission but are to be kept on the register and discharged only upon subsequent graduation or for one of the other reasons listed herein.

In most cases, "Graduate" discharges are not entered in the OSIS Discharge Book; instead, they are reported by school entries on OSIS computer rosters.

02 Obtained Employment Certificate In the case of a 16-17 year old who is planning to leave school for (full-time) employment, the parent/guardian must appear in school with the student to consent to withdrawal from school by signing the "Application for Employment Certification" (FORM 970). At that time, full advantage should be taken of the opportunity for counseling parent and student on present and future vocational and educational goals. No approval for discharge from school for 16-17 year olds is to be given unless evidence is presented of an Exit Interview having been conducted and properly entered on the forms provided. (Regulation of the Chancellor, No. A-245, 10/1/79 and A-250, 10/1/79).

At the time of discharge, the student's Employment Certificate Number (EC#) should be entered in the "Comments" section of the Discharge Book entry for that student. A student discharged under this category has the right to return to school, if he or she so wishes.

For Special Education students, refer also to Regulation of the Chancellor, No. A-242, 10/15/81, "Attendance Services and Discharge Procedures for Special Education Students".

Code	Description

04 Under Six (6) Years of Age

Students under six (6) years of age may be discharged with written parental consent. Parental approval is not needed, however, where continued unexplained absence (20 consecutive days) occurs and the parent has been notified of possible dismissal. In such cases, the school should inform the parent that the student has been discharged.

06 Admitted to a Parochial School or other approved religiously affiliated school

Student may be discharged to a Parochial or other approved religiously affiliated school with parental consent through FORM 207, "Certificate of Registration in a Non-Public School", or upon verification by Attendance Teacher. An "approved" parochial or other religiously affiliated school must be a full-time day school offering equivalent instruction. The name of the school should be entered in the "Comments" section of the Discharge Book entry for that student.

07 Admitted to an approved Business School or Trade School

Student may be discharged to an approved Business or Trade School (including approved Beauty Schools) under the following circumstances:

- *Student is at least 16.5 years of age and has completed tenth grade
- *Parental consent is given
- *School has conducted an exit interview and given appropriate counseling
- *District Supervisor of Attendance has approved such discharge

An "approved" Business or Trade School is one which prepares a person for a skill or a job and is licensed or registered by the State Education Department's Bureau of Proprietary Schools.

The name of the Business or Trade School should be entered in the "Comments" section of the Discharge Book entry for that student.

08 Admitted to an approved Private School

Student may be discharged to an approved Private School with parental consent through FORM 207, "Certificate of Registration in a Non-Public School" or upon verification by Attendance Teacher. An "approved" Private School must be a full-time day school offering equivalent instruction.The name of the school should be entered in the "Comments" section of the Discharge Book entry for that student.

09 Private Instruction (Non-Board of Education)

Student may be discharged if receiving equivalent instruction from a private tutor or the parent acting as a private tutor, subject to the approval of the appropriate Superintendent whose responsibility it is to validate the tutor or parent's educational credentials. Appropriate forms should be obtained from Superintendent's office: FORM 321 (Parental Application for Instruction by Private Tutor) and FORM 343 (Record of Attendance by Private Tutor).

Code	Description

10 Institution (Non-Board of Education)

Admission to the Non-Board of Education institution must be verified by an Attendance Teacher by obtaining name, address, and date of admission to the institution. Discharges to New York City Board of Education Hospital Schools or other New York City Special Education Schools are not to be included in this category; they are included in Discharge Code 00.

11 Removal from New York City

At the time of discharge, the school should obtain the student's new home address for entry in the Discharge Book along with the appropriate Geographical ("Geo") Code.

FORM 200X, "Notice of Discharge to School Outside of New York City", is sent to the new school. If verification of admission is not received from the new school within 10 school days, Referral FORM 407, "Attendance Teacher's Absentee Report," must be initiated by the New York City Public School.

A student may also be discharged as a "Removal from New York City" upon Attendance Teacher's investigation and verification of removal.

12 Not Found

While the school bears the initial responsibility for locating absentee students, only Bureau of Attendance personnel or District Attendance Teachers, after following mandated referral procedures, are empowered to authorize the discharge of students as "Not Found".

In addition, for Special Education students, the appropriate Bureau of Attendance Supervisor must sign off on any "Not Found" discharges. (Refer to Regulation of the Chancellor, A-242, 10/15/81, for detailed procedures).

15 Deceased

Official procedures require the presentation of a death certificate; however, a written or oral statement by parent, Attendance Teacher, or another person having accurate information is permissible if the death certificate is not available.

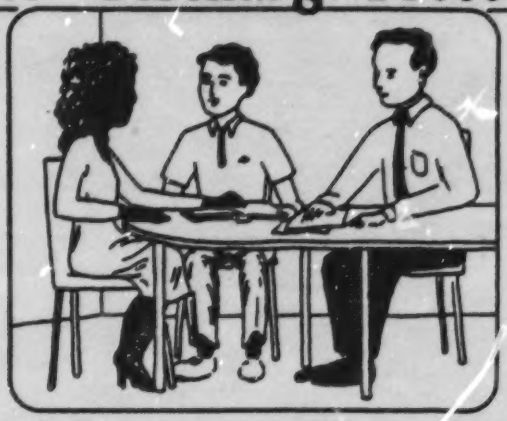
17 Home Instruction (Board of Education)

Student admitted to New York City Board of Education Home Instruction must be discharged from the school even when the student will be receiving Home Instruction for only a short period of time.

20 Enrolled in a College Early Admission Program prior to graduation from high school

Written verification from the college is required.

"Over 17" Discharge Procedures



A student may not be discharged as "Over 17" unless he or she has been absent at least 20 consecutive days and the following procedures, mandated under State Education Law 3202 (subd. 1-a) have been complied with:

1. Student and parent/guardian have been notified in writing of scheduled informal conference to determine reasons for student's absence and to explore possible changes in student's educational program.

2. Oral and written notification have been given at the conference of student's right to re-enroll in school at any time, provided student is otherwise still legally entitled to enroll.

3. If student and parent/guardian fail to attend scheduled conference, student may be discharged provided written notification is given of the student's right to re-enroll at any time if otherwise still legally entitled to enroll.

Having followed the regulations described above, schools may discharge students who are over the age of 17 using one of the "Over 17" codes created to record accurate, meaningful information about the circumstances of the discharge. For audit purposes, schools are required to maintain appropriate documentation for all "Over 17" discharges.

For additional guidelines regarding "Over 17" discharge procedures, refer to:

1. High School Memorandum #35, November 23, 1981 and Addendum
2. Policy Statements of the Division of High Schools, 1982-83, Sec. 4.11

"Over 17" Discharge Codes appear on the following page.

Code "Over 17" Discharge Code Descriptions

30 Received New York State High School Equivalency Diploma after attendance at an "in-school" program

Requires written verification of issuance of High School Equivalency Diploma.

31 Enrolled in Auxiliary Services for the High Schools

Requires verification from Auxiliary Services, a New York City High School program. Do not use Code 00 for students enrolled in Auxiliary Services.

32 Enrolled in an Outreach Center

Requires verification from a Project Outreach Center, a New York City High School program. Do not use Code 00 for students enrolled in an Outreach Center.

33 Enrolled in a N.Y.C. Public Evening High School to continue a high school education and work toward an Evening High School Diploma

Requires verification from Evening High School.

34 Enrolled in Job Corps or other similar vocational training program

Requires verification of acceptance by training program.
Job placement agencies, such as "TAP", are not training programs.

35 Entered Military Service

Requires verification of enlistment.

NEW 9/93 36 Enrolled in a Full-Time High School Equivalency Program Outside the New York City Public School System

Requires verification from program.

NEW 9/93 37 Special Education "High School Completer"

Use of the "High School Completer" discharge (Code 37) is restricted to High School Special Education students who request discharge and who meet the following conditions:

- Student is unable, according to his or her Individualized Education Program, to qualify for either a New York City High School Diploma or a CRMD Certificate.
- Student has attended high school for a minimum of four years (which may include Grade 9 in Junior High School).
- Student has received instruction as determined by the Individualized Education Program.

Such discharge of a 17 year old may only be implemented with the consent of the parent. For students 18 to 21, parental consent is required if a parent has been appointed as the student's legal guardian.

For other discharges of Special Education students, refer to the appropriate discharge categories described in this booklet.

39 Other-"Over 17", discharged with parental consent, not included in any categories above

As with all "Over 17" discharges, Code 39 requires that all mandated procedures be followed prior to discharge.

APPENDIX B.

Dropouts and Graduates from Academic, Vocational, and Alternative High Schools

DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES FROM
ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS
1983-84

SCHOOL	Dropouts	Oct.'83 Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
MATH AND SCIENCE	1	400	0.3%	---
HUMANITIES	11	423	2.6%	---
SEWARD PARK	553	4,140	13.4%	642
WASHINGTON IRVING	367	2,710	13.5%	321
GEORGE WASHINGTON	503	3,292	15.3%	380
LOUIS D. BRANDEIS	720	3,519	20.5%	530
STUYVESANT	9	2,713	0.3%	766
JULIA RICHMAN	577	3,556	16.2%	496
F. H. LAGUARDIA	54	2,505	2.2%	544
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.	384	2,506	15.3%	342
MURRY BERGTRAUM	62	2,834	2.2%	609
PARK WEST	463	3,135	14.8%	337
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH	13	881	1.5%	164
FASHION INDUSTRIES	142	2,009	7.1%	316
CHELSEA	108	957	11.3%	112
NORMAN THOMAS	169	2,901	5.8%	633
GRAPHIC COMM. ARTS	154	1,563	9.9%	176
ART & DESIGN	70	1,948	3.6%	405
MANHATTAN VOCATIONAL	217	738	29.4%	106
MABEL D. BACON	95	1,345	7.1%	248
MANHATTAN SUBTOTAL	4,672	44,075	10.6%	7,127
MORRIS	290	1,953	14.8%	156
HERBERT H. LEHMAN	224	2,168	10.3%	420
WILLIAM H. TAFT	567	2,932	19.3%	235
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS	329	2,814	11.7%	573
JAMES MONROE	461	2,365	19.5%	262
EVANDER CHILDS	718	3,481	20.6%	462
WALTON	409	3,677	11.1%	530
THEODORE ROOSEVELT	406	3,531	11.5%	318
DEWITT CLINTON	430	3,417	12.6%	249
BRONX H.S. OF SCIENCE	13	3,264	0.4%	707
ADLAI E. STEVENSON	544	4,663	11.7%	543
HARRY S. TRUMAN	134	2,537	5.3%	442
SOUTH BRONX	66	1,066	6.2%	110
JOHN F. KENNEDY	727	5,125	14.2%	839
ALFRED E. SMITH	164	1,482	11.1%	181
JANE ADDAMS	163	1,600	10.2%	244
SAMUEL GOMPERS	117	1,555	7.5%	118
GRACE DODGE	124	2,010	6.2%	334
BRONX SUBTOTAL	5,886	49,640	11.9%	6,723

DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES FROM
ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS
1983-84
(Continued)

SCHOOL	Dropouts	Oct.'83 Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
MIDWOOD	144	2,453	5.9%	516
SAMUEL J. TILDEN	268	2,958	9.1%	621
JAMES MADISON	311	3,329	9.3%	638
THOMAS JEFFERSON	444	2,259	19.7%	259
PROSPECT HEIGHTS	441	2,396	18.4%	299
NEW UTRECHT	247	2,958	8.4%	429
ERASMUS HALL	505	3,431	14.7%	479
GEORGE W. WINGATE	403	2,825	14.3%	489
BUSHWICK	355	2,018	17.6%	205
SHEEPSHEAD BAY	372	2,665	14.0%	444
CANARSIE	195	2,055	9.5%	438
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT	456	3,235	14.1%	479
SOUTH SHORE	339	3,475	9.8%	590
EDWARD R. MURROW	103	2,986	3.4%	611
JOHN DEWEY	119	3,309	3.6%	598
CLARA BARTON	75	2,435	3.1%	467
EAST NEW YORK	137	1,365	10.0%	130
ALEXANDER HAMILTON	112	930	12.0%	125
WILLIAM H. MAXWELL	166	1,687	9.8%	227
BROOKLYN SUBTOTAL	5,192	48,769	10.6%	8,044
LAFAYETTE	452	2,520	17.9%	408
ABRAHAM LINCOLN	240	2,524	9.5%	518
BROOKLYN TECHNICAL	118	4,531	2.6%	1,077
BOYS AND GIRLS	540	3,081	17.5%	299
JOHN JAY	516	2,840	18.2%	406
EASTERN DISTRICT	827	4,029	20.5%	362
BAY RIDGE	162	1,081	15.0%	255
FORT HAMILTON	425	2,848	14.9%	493
GEORGE WESTINGHOUSE	117	1,794	6.5%	276
AUTOMOTIVE	121	1,486	8.1%	226
WILLIAM E. GRADY	174	1,696	10.3%	255
ELI WHITNEY	312	2,165	14.4%	222
SARAH J. HALE	301	2,102	14.3%	301
NEW DORP	267	3,468	7.7%	594
PORT RICHMOND	182	2,827	6.4%	561
CURTIS	185	2,027	9.1%	271
TOTTENVILLE	268	4,288	6.3%	988
SUSAN WAGNER	154	2,620	5.9%	577
RALPH MCKEE	54	1,326	4.1%	185
BASIS SUBTOTAL	5,415	49,253	11.0%	8,274

DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES FROM
ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS
1983-84
(Continued)

SCHOOL	Dropouts	Oct.'83 Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
AUGUST MARTIN	63	2,261	2.8%	383
BEACH CHANNEL	183	2,509	7.3%	568
BENJAMIN CARDOZO	107	2,373	4.5%	529
SPRINGFIELD GARDENS	306	2,457	12.5%	430
JOHN BOWNE	250	3,189	7.8%	675
FRANCIS LEWIS	161	1,852	8.7%	573
MARTIN VAN BUREN	66	2,209	3.0%	579
FOREST HILLS	188	3,097	6.1%	630
WILLIAM C. BRYANT	331	2,977	11.1%	546
LONG ISLAND CITY	240	2,543	9.4%	476
NEWTOWN	456	4,262	10.7%	793
FLUSHING	223	2,130	10.5%	469
FAR ROCKAWAY	221	2,319	9.5%	289
JAMAICA	145	2,620	5.5%	491
RICHMOND HILL	304	2,094	14.5%	301
JOHN ADAMS	411	3,326	12.4%	535
GROVER CLEVELAND	369	3,239	11.4%	598
ANDREW JACKSON	283	3,448	8.2%	427
BAYSIDE	153	2,642	5.8%	598
HILLCREST	244	3,459	7.1%	597
QUEENS VOCATIONAL	110	1,041	10.6%	133
AVIATION	103	2,300	4.5%	454
THOMAS EDISON	185	2,019	9.2%	297
FRANKLIN K. LANE	651	4,556	14.3%	743
QUEENS SUBTOTAL	5,753	64,922	8.9%	12,114

DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES FROM ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOLS

1983-84

SCHOOL	Dropouts	Oct.'83 Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
BRONX REGIONAL	109	540	20.2%	69
CAREER INTERN PROGRAM	92	156	59.0%	---
CITY-AS-SCHOOL	146	757	19.3%	186
CONCORD	25	257	9.7%	47
H.S. REDIRECTION	210	920	22.8%	114
LOWER EAST SIDE PREP	153	787	19.4%	102
MIDDLE COLLEGE	66	608	10.9%	111
PACIFIC	117	602	19.4%	70
PARK EAST	114	604	18.9%	28
SATELLITE ACADEMY	146	1,121	13.0%	279
STREET ACADEMY	8	240	3.3%	---
WEST SIDE	76	587	12.9%	50
TOTAL	1,262	7,179	17.6%	1,056

NOTE: Total register is the opening period register plus all admissions during the year.

The Career Intern Program and the Street Academy did not have graduating classes in 1983-84.

APPENDIX C.

History of Dropout Accounting in New York City

HISTORY OF DROPOUT ACCOUNTING IN NEW YORK CITY

Until 1981-82, dropout statistics were based on tabulations of admissions, discharges, and graduates which were collected by the schools and submitted to the central offices of the Board of Education. With the establishment of a computerized student information system, the Biofile, it became possible to relate these data to individual student records, and to identify students who dropped out but then re-enrolled. The historical records on the Biofile also made it possible to avoid duplicate counts of students who dropped out, returned to school, and then dropped out again.

Since 1977-78 the school system has greatly expanded its student information system. Improved accounting procedures, data collection methods, and definitions of dropout codes have all contributed to an increasingly accurate presentation of dropout statistics. At the same time, such improvements reduce the comparability of the annual dropout estimate from one year to the next. However, findings from previous reports do indicate the continuing magnitude of the problem. Projected four-year dropout rates, all of which were based on aggregate data, were as follows: for academic year 1977-78, 44.3 percent; for 1978-79, 47.3 percent; and for 1980-81, 46.8 percent. In 1981-82 two rates were reported; the first, computed in the same way as in the previous three years, was 45 percent, and the second, which did not count

as dropouts any students who re-enrolled within the same school year, was 41.4 percent. All figures from 1977-78 to 1981-82 refer only to students attending academic, vocational, and alternative day high schools.

In 1982-83, dropout accounting was expanded to include all students served by the school system who were of high-school age; i.e. 14 to 21 years. Data were gathered for community school district students attending intermediate and junior high schools, special education students, and also students attending special programs designed for the dropout population. In order to provide more information about the reasons students leave school, additional discharge categories were defined for use by the schools. Finally, continuing with the procedure established in 1981-82, an attempt was made to include only first-time dropouts. The estimated four-year rate for day high schools was 38.4 percent and the rate for all programs serving students age 14 and over was 41.7 percent.

Past documents on the dropout rate include: The Dropout Report (October 16, 1979); High School Dropout Statistics, 1981-82 (March, 1983); and Dropouts from New York Public Schools, 1982-83 (Spring 1984).

APPENDIX D.

Dropouts from New York City High Schools
by Dropout Category

DROPOUTS FROM NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOLS, BY DROPOUT CATEGORY
1983-84

SCHOOL	Employment, Job Training	Discharged to New Setting Without Confirmed Admission	Other Over 17	Not Found	Total Dropout
MATH AND SCIENCE	0	0	1	0	1
HUMANITIES	2	2	7	0	11
SEWARD PARK	113	84	321	35	553
WASHINGTON IRVING	17	49	286	15	367
GEORGE WASHINGTON	44	60	395	4	503
LOUIS D. BRANDEIS	21	84	609	6	720
STUYVESANT	1	2	6	0	9
JULIA RICHMAN	22	36	519	0	577
F. H. LAGUARDIA	4	5	43	2	54
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.	29	77	268	10	384
MURRY BERGTRAUM	2	6	51	3	62
PARK WEST	10	35	406	12	463
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH	0	5	6	2	13
FASHION INDUSTRIES	9	10	123	0	142
CHELSEA	4	1	103	0	108
NORMAN THOMAS	4	18	146	1	169
GRAPHIC COMM. ARTS	4	1	139	10	154
H.S. ART & DESIGN	3	4	63	0	70
MANHATTAN VOCATIONAL	9	9	188	11	217
MABEL D. BACON	5	9	76	5	95
MANHATTAN SUBTOTAL	303	497	3,756	116	4,672
MORRIS	56	66	136	32	290
HERBERT H. LEHMAN	17	1	196	10	224
WILLIAM H. TAFT	42	103	403	19	567
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS	25	144	154	6	329
JAMES MONROE	25	50	373	13	461
EVANDER CHILDS	53	98	519	48	718
WALTON	28	80	275	26	409
THEODORE ROOSEVELT	52	82	84	188	406
DEWITT CLINTON	18	79	331	2	430
BRONX H.S. OF SCIENCE	0	11	2	0	13
ADLAI E. STEVENSON	89	132	220	103	544
HARRY S. TRUMAN	21	23	75	15	134
SOUTH BRONX	10	7	30	19	66
JOHN F. KENNEDY	52	23	619	33	727
ALFRED E. SMITH	3	85	76	0	164
JANE ADDAMS	8	39	112	4	163
SAMUEL GOMPERS	8	15	88	6	117
GRACE DODGE	13	36	67	8	124
BRONX SUBTOTAL	520	1,074	3,760	532	5,886

DROPOUTS FROM NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOLS, BY DROPOUT CATEGORY
(Continued)

SCHOOL	Discharged to New Setting Without Employment, Job Training	Confirmed Admission	Other Over 17	Not Found	Total Dropouts
MIDWOOD	21	5	110	8	144
SAMUEL J. TILDEN	15	42	198	13	268
JAMES MADISON	34	11	245	21	311
THOMAS JEFFERSON	13	39	328	64	444
PROSPECT HEIGHTS	48	52	324	17	441
NEW UTRECHT	36	10	186	15	247
ERASMUS HALL	23	39	403	40	505
GEORGE W. WINGATE	8	17	348	30	403
BUSHWICK	28	57	235	35	355
SHEEPSHEAD BAY	29	20	305	18	372
CANARSIE	20	6	169	[illegible]	195
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT	39	9	385	23	456
SOUTH SHORE	12	1	323	3	339
EDWARD R. MURROW	24	0	61	18	103
JOHN DEWEY	5	11	99	4	119
CLARA BARTON	1	11	62	1	75
EAST NEW YORK	10	20	98	9	137
ALEXANDER HAMILTON	21	9	79	3	112
WILLIAM H. MAXWELL	8	0	124	34	166
BROOKLYN SUBTOTAL	395	359	4,082	356	5,192
LAFAYETTE	31	131	282	8	452
ABRAHAM LINCOLN	23	46	148	23	240
BROOKLYN TECHNICAL	17	24	42	[illegible]	118
BOYS AND GIRLS	25	73	399	43	540
JOHN JAY	30	11	431	44	516
EASTERN DISTRICT	89	81	552	105	827
BAY RIDGE	1	0	140	21	162
FORT HAMILTON	16	6	363	40	425
GEORGE WESTINGHOUSE	34	40	38	5	117
AUTOMOTIVE	19	12	58	32	121
WILLIAM E. GRADY	10	34	123	7	174
ELI WHITNEY	25	68	203	16	312
SARAH J. HALE	15	24	240	22	301
NEW DORP	27	45	183	12	267
PORT RICHMOND	15	48	95	24	182
CURTIS	13	38	117	17	185
TOTTENVILLE	10	45	212	1	268
SUSAN WAGNER	21	31	100	2	154
RALPH MCKEE	6	8	38	2	54
BASIS SUBTOTAL	427	765	3,764	459	5,415

DROPOUTS FROM NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOLS, BY DROPOUT CATEGORY
(Continued)

SCHOOL	Employment, Job Training	Discharged to New Setting Without Confirmed Admission	Other Over 17	Not Found	Total Dropouts
AUGUST MARTIN	4	14	37	8	63
BEACH CHANNEL	21	54	101	7	183
BENJAMIN CARDOZO	23	42	40	2	107
SPRINGFIELD GARDENS	49	88	144	25	306
JOHN BOWNE	24	82	76	68	250
FRANCIS LEWIS	9	15	121	16	161
MARTIN VAN BUREN	13	29	22	2	66
FOREST HILLS	23	22	130	13	188
WILLIAM C. BRYANT	26	63	241	1	331
LONG ISLAND CITY	9	103	110	18	240
NEWTOWN	26	81	318	31	456
FLUSHING	41	43	134	5	223
FAR ROCKAWAY	27	32	140	22	221
JAMAICA	38	16	84	7	145
RICHMOND HILL	27	60	196	21	304
JOHN ADAMS	24	89	267	31	411
GROVER CLEVELAND	66	76	189	38	369
ANDREW JACKSON	16	68	166	33	283
BAYSIDE	12	43	93	5	153
HILLCREST	22	37	147	38	244
QUEENS VOCATIONAL	3	5	98	4	110
AVIATION	2	0	98	3	103
THOMAS EDISON	7	20	153	5	185
FRANKLIN K. LANE	35	14	557	45	651
QUEENS SUBTOTAL	547	1,096	3,662	448	5,753
BRONX REGIONAL	21	20	68	0	109
CAREER INTERN PROGRAM	12	0	70	10	92
CITY-AS-SCHOOL	15	6	125	0	146
CONCORD	6	10	5	4	25
H.S. REDIRECTION	6	8	196	0	210
LOWER EAST SIDE PREP	83	5	65	0	153
MIDDLE COLLEGE	12	35	15	4	66
PACIFIC	16	20	70	11	117
PARK EAST	3	2	107	2	114
SATELLITE ACADEMY	36	10	82	18	146
STREET ACADEMY	3	0	2	3	8
WEST SIDE	13	3	23	37	76
ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOLS SUBTOTAL	226	119	828	89	1,262
CITYWIDE TOTAL	2,418	3,910	19,852	2,000	28,180*

* An additional 27 day high school dropouts could not be attributed to particular schools.